

expenditures. The primary focus in the next 10 years will be on redevelopment, maintenance, and regional efforts to solve multi-jurisdictional problems such as water and wastewater. See previous discussions on page III-22, item 10b.

2. Population

a. Seasonal Population

Projections are available only at the county level from the North Carolina Department of Planning, State Data Center. The Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Inc.'s Dare County Service Requirement and Development Options Cost Report, a part of the Carrying Capacity Study, projects an average visiting population of 24,284, and a peak visiting population of 40,473 by 2001. The Town projects its 2003 permanent population at 6,100 and projects the peak visiting population plus permanent population in 2003 to be about 48,000.

b. Local Objectives Concerning Growth

A moderate growth rate that will result in a permanent population of about 8,500 persons by 2007 is projected. Based upon the responses received in the 1997 public opinion survey, there is support for more residential development and less commercial development, but strong resentment to an increase in density.

3. Economy

The Town will continue to rely on tourism as its main industry throughout the planning period. There will continue to be pressure from the commercial sector to re-examine land use policies and the Town's approach to land use planning.

4. Future Land Need

There is sufficient vacant land to meet the demands anticipated for the planning period. However, the suitability of soils for septic tank use could constrain the amount and location of future growth.

5. Community Facilities Demand